GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6458
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2000
OIL EXPLORATION SURVEYS CONDUCTED BY ONGC
P.D. ELANGOVAN

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received detailed reports on the oil exploration surveys conducted by the ONGC in the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of the prospects of the oil occurrence and possible production in various oil basins in the country;

(c) the steps taken by Government to produce more crude oil by exploitation of these oil wells in the country;

(d) whether the exploration and production of crude oil from various oil wells in the country still needs foreign expertise and technology; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a)to(e): A statement is enclosed.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.6458 for answer on 8.5.2000

(a)to(c): During the last three years (1997-2000), Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.(ONGC) has carried out 17644 Ground Line Kilometre(GLK)/Line Kilometre(LK) of 2D and 348539 GLK/LK of 3D seismic surveys in onland and offshore areas and has taken up eighty four new prospects for drilling besides extension/ delineation drilling in the existing fields. The drilling of these new prospects has led to twenty new hydrocarbon finds in Cauvery basin, Krishna-Godavari(KG) basin, Cambay basin, Upper Assam, Assam Arakan Fold Belt and Mumbai offshore areas of which seven are oil and thirteen are gas bearing.The oil wells both from the new as well as in the field extension/growth area are continuously studied and evaluated for putting them on commercial production.

(d): The exploration of oil and gas is a process involving multidisciplinary approach and constitutes several components like acquisition, processing, interpretation of seismic data and drilling of exploratory wells. National Oil Companies (NOCs) are equipped with expertise to achieve the exploration and production needs. However, in special cases or area the services or technology is obtained through foreign expertise or technology, as the case may be.

(e): Some of the foreign expertise or technology in selected area utilised for exploration and production include Ocean Bottom Cable (OBC) surveys in offshore, data acquisition in transition zone (between very shallow water offshore including adjoining coastal area), data acquisition in fold belt areas, gel technology and advance fracturing.